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THE MIGRANT

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A QUARTERLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO TENNESSEE BIRDS

PUBLISHED BY
THE TENNESSEE
ORNITHOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 1992
VOL. 63, NO. 3

THE MIGRANT

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF ORNITHOLOGY

FIRST ISSUE PUBLISHED IN JUNE 1930

PUBLISHED BY

THE TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded at Nashville, Tennessee on 7 October 1915
The T.O.S. is a non-profit, educational, scientific,
and conservation organization.

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Published quarterly (March, June, September, and December).
Printed by Mallicote Printing Inc., 509 Shelby Street, Bristol, TN 37620.

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ISSN 0026-3575

THE MIGRANT

Published by the Tennessee Ornithological Society,
to Record and Encourage the Study of Birds in Tennessee.
Issued in March, June, September, and December.

VOL. 63 September 1992 NO. 3

The Migrant, 63 (3): 65-67, 1992.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT AT ROAN MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE AND NORTH CAROLINA

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On 27 October 1991 I observed a Sprague's Pipit *(Anthus spragueii)* on the summit of Round Bald on Roan Mountain, in both Carter County, Tennessee, and Mitchell County, North Carolina. Round Bald is an open, grassy bald with a maximum elevation of about 1775 m. The short, brown grass there at that season is very similar to this bird's short-grass prairie home. The sky was partly cloudy, the temperature was near 20° C, and the wind was light. Viewing conditions were good, and I was able to study the bird for most of two hours through a 7x binocular and a 20x spotting scope at distances of 10-25 m with the sun at my back.

I first saw the bird at 1100 as it circled the bald about 15 m above the ground, apparently after it had been flushed by another hiker. After a minute or two, it suddenly dropped straight down to the ground, and I was able to get a good look. Convinced of its identity, I drove home to alert other birders and to get my camera. Upon my return to the bald in mid-afternoon, a short search yielded the bird again. Excellent views were had, but attempts to photograph the bird were unsuccessful.

The bird was about the size of a Vesper Sparrow *(Pooecetes gramineus)*, but thinner in build. It was a generally buffy-tan color above. There were numerous thin, dark streaks on the crown. A prominent black eye, with a white eye ring, was set in an otherwise unmarked buffy side of the head. The bill was thin and straight; the upper mandible was dark, and the lower mandible was yellow with a dark tip. The back was buffy with fairly heavy streaks that looked scaly (i.e., dark feathers with pale edges). The folded wings had two indistinct buffy wing bars. The tail was light brownish with much white on the outer sides, best seen while the bird was in flight. Sprague's Pipit shows two completely white outer tail feathers on both sides, whereas American Pipit *(A. rubescens)* shows considerably less white (Pyle *et al.* 1987). The throat was unmarked whitish. The buffy-whitish breast had a necklace of thin, dark streaks. The belly was unmarked whitish. The legs were pale yellow-orange. The wing linings were white, as seen against the sky when the bird flew up high.

The bird was rather secretive. Its skulking walk, combined with cryptic coloration, made it difficult to follow at times. It was never seen to pump its tail, which the

American Pipit constantly does as it walks. When flushed, the Sprague's Pipit would either fly a short distance just above the ground or vault straight up about 15-20 m, circle, then drop straight back down to the ground. A short, squeaky single note was occasionally given in flight, unlike the "pip-pit" call of the American Pipit.

The combined field marks and behavior are all consistent with Sprague's Pipit and differ from those of other pipits, sparrows, longspurs, buntings, or larks. I have seen Sprague's Pipit on its wintering grounds in Texas and am familiar with the other North American birds with which it might be confused. Scott (1983) was consulted between my morning and afternoon observations; Farrand (1983) and Pyle *et al.* (1987) were examined that night. Field notes were written before consulting the last two references. Frank Ward, Dan Huffine, and Rusty Dunn saw the bird in the afternoon with me. Before the 27th and after the 28th, other birders and I saw one to three American Pipits in the same area. This record of Sprague's Pipit was accepted by the North Carolina Bird Records Committee (LeGrand 1992), but did not require action by the Tennessee Bird Records Committee, which acts only on first, second, or third state records. It is of interest to note that other single Sprague's Pipits were reported from the eastern U.S. at Clinton, Massachusetts (Duncan 1992), and Oxford, Mississippi (Jackson 1992), on virtually the same date as the Roan Mountain sighting.

There are at least 16 previous records of Sprague's Pipit in Tennessee, all from counties bordering the Mississippi River. The species was recorded almost annually from 1953-1959 in Shelby County, with dates of occurrence ranging from 12 October to 21 April (Robinson 1990). The only other sightings were from Dyer County on 2 February 1957 and Lauderdale County on 31 January 1976 (op. cit.).

Sprague's Pipit is listed as a Provisional species in North Carolina, based on five published sightings from the piedmont and coastal plain, most of which "contain details that cause concern about the identification" (LeGrand 1990:57). There are two records from Virginia, one from Chincoteague on the coast (Bass 1978) and the other from Wise County in the southwestern corner (Peake 1973) — just over 100 km from Roan Mountain. Kentucky has one hypothetical record from near Louisville (Monroe *et al.* 1988). In South Carolina and Georgia, Sprague's Pipit is considered to be a very rare winter visitor, almost exclusively on the coastal plain (Post and Gauthreaux 1989, Haney *et al.* 1986).

Thus, the record detailed in this note appears to be only the second report of Sprague's Pipit from the southern Appalachian Mountains.

My thanks to Eloise F. Potter and Harry E. LeGrand, Jr., for comments that improved this note.

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Accepted 11 February 1992.

The Migrant, 63 (3): 68, 1992.

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK IN HAMILTON COUNTY

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On 20 March 1986 at 1135 hours I was informed by Randall L. "Jack" Doyle that an immature male Black-headed Grosbeak *(Pheucticus melanocephalus)* had been coming regularly to a bird feeder on the campus of the Baylor School in Hamilton County.

Upon receiving the news I immediately drove to the location and waited for the bird to appear, which it did at 1315 hours. With my Leitz Trinovid 10x40 binoculars, at only about 10 meters distance, all of the field marks were closely and leisurely studied. The bird had the typical grosbeak bill and was molting from the first fall into the breeding male plumage. Black feathers were replacing the stripped ones on the crown; cinnamon-colored feathers were conspicuously replacing the buff-colored ones on the breast, and the wings were blackish with two white wing bars.

The bird had been first noticed by teacher Bill Chipley a couple of days earlier and he had mentioned it to student Paul Freeman, who in turn had reported to his father, Jack Freeman.

The feeder was simple and the location was not outstanding, as the important thing was the available food. The feeding device consisted of a very small, clear plastic suction-type cup that was attached to a window with an air conditioner extruding below. The total capacity of the feeder was about a cup of sunflower seeds.

On 23 March, C. Del Brum, Paul C. Harris, Stephen J. and Barbara H. Stedman, Richard L. Knight, Kenneth H. Dubke and myself all had a very leisurely opportunity to view the bird again. This was the last report I had of the bird in the area.

There is one other local record of a Black-headed Grosbeak and that was observed on the spring bird count 25-26 April 1981 (Lura 1981).

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Accepted 16 December 1992.

The Migrant, 63 (3): 69-79, 1992.

THE SEASON

ROBERT P. FORD, Editor
(Received for Publication 1 February 1994)

SPRING: 1 MARCH - 31 MAY 1992

Significant observations numbered relatively high across the state during this spring migration. Migratory birds arrived early or lingered late in Tennessee. In fact, many set state or regional records for early and late dates. Furthermore, the season seemed to have an above average number of species that were recorded in the state or a region for only the first, second, third, or fourth time.

Perhaps the most notable record was the Pine Grosbeak, recorded for the first time in the state since archaeological evidence determined its historical presence during the Pleistocene. An observation of Swainson's Hawk documented the first spring record and second state record for this species. A Western Kingbird occurred in middle Tennessee in March, apparently the earliest record in Tennessee. Other rarities across the state included Sharp-tailed Sparrow in east Tennessee, American White Pelican in middle Tennessee, and Cinnamon Teal and Snowy Plover in west Tennessee.

This season's weather influenced the timing and occurrence of migration and new or unusual species. Across the state, compilers considered this season to be a "reversal" of the normal. Warm temperatures prevailed during early spring, but late April into early May placed much of Tennessee into a deep freeze, and delivered a tremendous snowfall to the eastern mountains. Possibly because of these weather patterns, observers in east Tennessee noted a delay in migration, and the weather may account for many early and late records. Most directly related to the cold in late April were several reports of migrating birds at feeders, notably Indigo Buntings in east Tennessee and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks in middle Tennessee.

Abbreviations used in this report include: ad-adult; Co.-county; EOP-End of Period; ers-earliest reported sighting this season; et al.-and others; f-female; fide-reported by; im-immature; lrs-latest reported sighting this season; m-male; max-maximum count on one day; m.ob.-many observers; ph-photo; yg-young; *-details submitted.

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION: Several unusual birds were observed this season, thanks to 36 observers who reported on 55 days in the field in west Tennessee. The Pine Grosbeak was the most notable observation, marking the first record in Tennessee since its historical presence was confirmed by fossil remains

Table 1. 1992 Midwinter Eagle Count — Tennessee (1-15 January 1992)

	Adults	Immatures	Unknown	Total
Mississippi River Area				
Reelfoot Vic. (NWR)	64	47	—	111
Hatchie (NWR)	2	1	—	3
	66	48	—	114
Kentucky Lake Area				
Pickwick Vic.	3	3	—	6
Tennessee River (NWR)	8	8	—	16 + 2*
Land Between Lakes	19	16	—	35
	30	27	—	57 + 2*
Middle Tennessee				
Cheatham Res.	—	2	—	2
Cross Creek NWR	2	—	—	2
Center Hill Res.	2	—	—	2
Cordell Hull Res.	4	1	—	5 + 2*
Percy Priest Res.	1	—	—	1
Old Hickory Res.	1	—	—	1
Normandy Res.	1	—	—	1
Dale Hollow Res.	35	10	6	51
Woods Res.	2	1	—	3
	48	14	6	68 + 2*
East Tennessee				
Watauga Res.	—	1	—	1
Cherokee Res.	—	1	—	1
Douglas Res.	1	1	—	2
Ft. Loudoun Res.	2	—	—	2
Tellico Res.	2	1	—	3
Norris Res.	6	2	—	8
Watts Bar Res.	11	5	—	16 + 1*
Chickamauga Res.	12	3	—	15 + 2*
Nickajack Res.	3	1	—	4
	37	15	—	52 + 3*
Statewide Total	181	104	6	291 + 7*

**Golden Eagles*

Accepted 22 May 92

from the Pleistocene epoch. The Swainson's Hawk is the second sighting for the state, but apparently the first spring record; the first was on 27 September 1980 in the Chilhowee Mountains. Sightings of Cinnamon Teal, Snowy Plover, Avocet, Whimbrel, "Reeve", and Yellow-headed Blackbird were also reported in the region. Spring warbler migration was at its height during the third and fourth weeks of April; 34 species were observed. Twelve species of waterfowl remained in the area through April. Herons and egrets were reported in all of the river counties. Many shorebirds were reported from the wet fields along roadsides, while the usual species visited the EARTH COMPLEX.

Loon-Merganser: Common Loon: 2 May (1) TEC (TAF, MLG, WRP); 8 May (3) REL, LKC (WGC). American White Pelican: 29 Mar (15) Moss Island and GRR, DYC (WGC), early record; 6-24 Apr (1-75) Is 13 (WGC, TDP). Double-crested Cormorant: 27 Mar/21 Apr (500/5) REL, LKC (WGC); 26 Apr (50+) GRR, LKC (MAG, TDP, JCG). American Bittern: 7 Mar (1) Iris Hill, NE SBC (JAF), early SBC and west Tennessee record; 16 Apr/14 May (1) 79W and GRR/Gray's Camp, LKC (WGC). Least Bittern: 18 Apr (1) GBC (MAG, JCG, TDP); 27 Apr (1) LKC (WGC). Great Blue Heron: 21 Mar (about 300) Levee Rd, LKC (WGC). Great Egret: 22 Feb (1) LKC (*Kevin Calhoon), early state record. Black-crowned Night-Heron: 4-12 Apr (1 ad) LKC (WGC); 27 Apr (1/2) LKC/DYC (WGC). Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 7/10 Apr (1 ad) LKC (WGC); three colonies (7-13 nests) MEM (OKM, MGW). CINNAMON TEAL: 20 Mar-29 Apr (1 m) Hwy 79 and Old River Rd, LKC (WGC, m. ob.), fourth state record. Red-breasted Merganser: 1/4 Apr (6 f/4 f) DYC; 29 Apr (1 f) LKC (WGC).

Raptors: 1992 was a busy year for raising young raptors at the Memphis Zoo. Due to the mild winter and early spring the young came quite early; the first Great Horned Owl showed up in early January. As of 1 July 1992, a total of 28 birds of 5 different species had been raised: Great Horned Owl (4), Screech Owl (4), Barn Owl (8), Red-tailed Hawk (2), American Kestrel (10). Most of the birds came from the SBC area, with the exception of the Barn Owl. Seven of the eight Barn Owls came from Mississippi, while the eighth came from Arkansas. All of the others were from SBC except one Screech Owl from Natchez Trace State Park. All will be released in SBC except the Great Horned Owls. They will be released in other remote areas of west Tennessee. This report does not reflect the total number or species of raptors rehabilitated at the Memphis Zoo (OKM). Osprey: 2 Apr (1) REL, OBC (MAG, BLS); 16 Apr (3) HWR (Lee Ellison); 28 Ap (1) HWR (DoM, VBR, MGW); 16 Apr-8 May (nest) REL, LKC; 28 Apr (1) CWR (MAG); 10 May (1) Is 13 (WGC); 30 May (1) OBC (WRP). Mississippi Kite: 29 Apr (2) HWR (HBD, BHW, VBR, SSL); 1 May (1) HWR (DoM, TMI, VBR, MGW); 9 May PEF (MTOS). Bald Eagle: 14 Mar-3 Apr (nest) Lake Isom, LKC (WGC); 26 Apr (nest) REL, LKC (TWRA). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 12 Mar (1) MEM (DoM, VBR, MGW); 14 Mar (2) MEM (MLG, VBR, MGW); 29 Apr (1) HWR (HBD, BHW, VBR, SSL). Cooper's Hawk: 26 Apr (1) MEM (SNM). SWAINSON'S HAWK: 28 Apr (1) HWR (DoM, VBR), second state record, first regional record. Peregrine Falcon: 13 Apr (1) HWR (JBC); 26 Apr (1) Hwy 157, OBC (2) REL, 1/4 mile north of TN state line (MAG, TDP, JCG); 27 Apr/5 May (2/1) REL, LKC (WGC); 7 May (1) PEF (VBR).

Rails-Shorebirds: Virginia Rail: 11 Apr (1) LKC (WGC). Sora: 8 Apr (1) TEC (MGW); 15 Apr (1) LKC/(1) Tatumville, DYC (WGC); 17 Apr (1) PEF (TAF, MLG); 2 May (1)

TEC (MLG, TAF, WRP); 13 May (1) 79W and GRR, LKC, 19 May (1) REL, LKC (WGC). Shorebirds and wading birds were reported from all field observers. The fish ponds at the Penal Farm attracted its share of shorebirds, including a large number of White-rumped Sandpipers. The wet fields of the Mississippi River counties provided excellent feeding and resting habitat for the shorebirds north of Memphis. The EARTH complex provided observers (CHB, DPB, RLB, MLG, JAF, DoM, WRP, VBR, BHW, MGW, DLW) with a variety of species. A record high number of Lesser Yellowlegs and a season high for Least and Pectoral Sandpipers was recorded this year at the complex.

Black-bellied Plover: 24 Apr (1) PEF (MLG, VBR); 5/13 May (2/5) DYC (WGC); 7 May (1) TEC; 13-19 May (1) LKC (WGC). Lesser Golden-Plover: 21 Mar-8 May (47-237) LKC; 27 Mar-8 May (70-3) DYC (WGC); 3 Apr (1) PEF (MLG). SNOWY PLOVER: 27 Mar (1) DYC (WGC), second west Tennessee record and third state record. Semipalmated Plover: 1 Apr-24 May (1-31) LKC (WGC); 16 Apr-14 May (1-22) DYC (WGC); 18 Apr-21 May (8) TEC. Black-necked Stilt: 14 Apr (2) TEC; 9 May-EOP (3 nests, 6 adults) TEC. AMERICAN AVOCET: 29 Apr/9 May (1) DYC (WGC). Greater Yellowlegs: 7 Mar (4) DYC (WGC); 28 Mar-2 May (1-7) TEC; 2 Apr (10) GRR, LKC (MAG, BLS). Lesser Yellowlegs: 7 Mar (4) DYC (WGC); 14 Mar-16 May (661 max) TEC. Solitary Sandpiper: 4 Apr-21 May (140 max) TEC; 21 Apr (28) REL, LKC (WGC). WILLET: 20 Apr (1) DYC (WGC); 24 Apr (1) PEF (MLG); 29 Apr (2) LKC (WGC). Spotted Sandpiper: 12 Apr-16 May (3) TEC. WHIMBREL: 13-19 May (1) LKC (WGC), fourth west Tennessee record. Upland Sandpiper: 23 Apr (1) TEC. Ruddy Turnstone: 13 May (1) LKC (WGC). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 1 Apr (1) LKC (WGC); 24 Apr (690) TEC: 26 Apr (1) PEF (MLG). Western Sandpiper: 24 Apr-21 May (5) TEC; 25/26 Apr (2/5) PEF (MLG, WRP); 4/31 May (1/3) PEF (MLG). Least Sandpiper: 28 Mar-EOP (1595 max) TEC. White-rumped Sandpiper: 25 Apr (10) PEF (WRP), early west Tennessee and SBC date; 13/23 May (1/2) LKC (WGC); 31 May (1/10) PEF/TEC (MLG). Baird's Sandpiper: 29 Apr (1) REL, LKC (WGC). Pectoral Sandpiper: 7 Mar (19) GRR and HWY 79W, LKC (WGC); 28 Mar (1800 max) TEC. Dunlin: 16 Apr (1) PEF (VBR, MLG); 24 Apr (1) TEC; 8/13 May (7/1) LKC (WGC). Stilt Sandpiper: 26 Apr-14 May (1-13) REL, LKC (WGC); 22 May (1) PEF (MLG). RUFF: 4 May (1 f) TEC (Jeff R. Wilson, m.ob.). Short-billed Dowitcher: 17/25 Apr (1/3) PEF (TAF, MLG); 26 Apr (1) TEC. Long-billed Dowitcher: 25 Apr (1) PEF, 2 May (1) TEC (MLG, TAF, WRP). Dowitcher sp: 25 Apr (11) PEF (WRP); 9-13 May (1-30) DYC/LKC (WGC).

Gull- Waxwing: Bonaparte's Gull: 14 Mar (1) Miss. River, SBC (MLG); 5 May (1) PEF (MLG). Ring-billed Gull: 14 Mar/24 Apr (69/2) TEC (MLG, TAF, WRP); 3/6 Apr (500/300) Is 13 (WGC). Caspian Tern: 24 Apr (1) TEC (MLG); 9/10 May (5/3) LKC (WGC). Forster's Tern: 27/30 Apr (2/5) LKC (WGC); 7/22 May (2/1) PEF (MLG). Black Tern: 24 Apr (2) TEC (MLG); 13 May (30+) Is 13 (WGC). Common Nighthawk: 11 Mar (1) MEM (GRP, JBP), early SBC and west Tennessee record. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 24 Apr (1) REL, LKC (WGC). Willow Flycatcher: 23 May (1) HYC (GCP, RDH, ATT). Least Flycatcher: 4 May (1) SFP (DDP). Tree Swallow: 20 Mar (1) GRR and Hwy 104W, DYC (WGC). Cliff Swallow: 22/31 May (1) PEF (MLG). Fish Crow: 30 Mar (1) MEM (GRP, JBP), 18 Apr (4) GBC (MAG, TDP, JCG); 8 May (10) CWR (MAG, GMG). House Wren: 9 May (1) MDC (JBC, HSH). Sedge Wren: 7 Mar (1) PEF (DoM, VBR, MGW). American Pipit: 1-6 Apr (6-1) DYC (WGC); 5 May

(1) PEF (MLG). Cedar Waxwing: 30 May (140/15) LKC/OBC; 3 Jun (12) MEM (WRP).

Vireo-Siskin: Philadelphia Vireo: 22 Apr (1) PEF (DoM, MGW); 4 May (1) SFP (DDP). Black-throated Green Warbler: 22 Mar (1) Germantown, east SBC (MLG); 30 May (1) HWR (MGW); 30 May (1) OBC (WRP), late west Tennessee date. Northern Waterthrush: 21 Apr (1) PEF (VBR); 23 Apr (1) TEC (DoM, MGW); 26 Apr (6) MEM (MTOS); 4 May (1) SFP (DDP). Connecticut Warbler: 4 May (1) SFP (DDP). Mourning Warbler: 9 May (1) PEF (WRP, MTOS); 14 May (1 m) Rutherford Fork, Obion River Bottom, GBC (MAG). Wilson's Warbler: 7 May (1) PEF (VBR). Vesper Sparrow: 14 Mar (1) PEF (MLG, MGW); 4 Apr (5) TEC (DPB, DoM, VBR, MGW). Grasshopper Sparrow: 25/26 Apr (1) PEF (WRP/MLG); 12 May (1) Baseline Rd, near Tilghman, GBC (MAG, Eddie K. Wilbanks). LeConte's Sparrow: 14 Mar (1) PEF (MLG, MGW). Lincoln's Sparrow: 25 Apr (1) PEF (WRP); 26 Apr (1) TEC (Gilbert B. Beaver); 2 May (1) MEM (SNM). White-crowned Sparrow: 24 May (1) HYC (DPB, VBR, MGW), late west Tennessee date. Bobolink: 17 Apr-2 May (6-80) PEF (TAF, MLG, WRP); 24 Apr-19 May (8 m) LKC (WGC); 26 Apr (32) LKC (TDP, JCG); 26 Apr (155) MEM (MTOS); 28 Apr (50+) Lower Hatchie NWR, Lauderdale Co. (Robert P. Ford, Paul B. Hamel); 2 May (20) TEC (MLG, TAF, WRP); 5 May (130) DYC (WGC). Western Meadowlark: 22 Mar (1) PEF (DoM, MGW). YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: 12 Apr (1 f) TEC (David Hill); 23 Apr (1 f) TEC (MGW); 29 Apr (1 m) PEF (TMI). Brewer's Blackbird: 15 Apr (1 f) PEF (WRP), late SBC and west Tennessee. PINE GROSBEAK: 28 Mar (2 f, 2 m) Eagle Creek, Tenn. NWR, Benton Co. (Kay Flowers, Darryl Edmisson, Madge Lawrence, Larry Masters, Pat Lawrence, Joyce North, Bobby Snow, Loriane and Jack Dodd). Details submitted to TRBC from all observers. First record for state since an archaelogical survey found fossil remains by P.W. Parmalee and W.E. Klippel at Cheek Bend Cave in Maury Co. Pine Siskin: 11 Apr (6) Coffey Grounds, MEM (Ben B. Coffey, Lula C. Coffey); 26 Apr (1) PEF (WRP); 2 May (2) MDC (AHH, HSH).

Locations: CWR-Chickasaw National Wildlife Refuge, Lauderdale Co.; DYC-Dyer Co.; GBC-Gibson Co; GRR-Great River Road; HWR-Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge, Haywood Co.; HYC-Haywood Co.; Is 13-Joe Echles Towhead, Lake Co.; LDC-Lauderdale Co.; LKC-Lake Co.; MDC-Madison Co.; MEM-Memphis; OBC-Obion Co; PEF-Penal Farm, Memphis; REL-Reelfoot Lake, Lake and Obion Cos.; SBC-Shelby Co.; SFP-Shelby Forest State Park, Shelby Co.; TEC-The Earth Complex, Shelby Co.

MARTHA G. WALDRON, 1626 Yorkshire Dr., Memphis, TN 38119

HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION: This spring in Nashville was drier than normal. Rainfall was below normal by one inch in March, 3.7 inches in April and 1.4 inches in May. Temperatures were about 1° F above normal in March, normal in April and 2.3° F below normal in May. The American White Pelican on Old Hickory Lake and the Western Kingbird were the highlights of the season. Also noteworthy were sightings of Laughing Gull, Common Tern, Barn Owl, Olive-sided Flycatcher and above normal sightings of Orange-crowned, Connecticut and Mourning Warblers.

Pelican-Tern: AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN: 27 Feb (1) Drakes Creek, Old Hickory Lake, Sumner Co; observed daily, first by Carl Olson, then by others (*Steve

Lunc, *Richard Newton and *MSH) until 14 Mar. This is apparently the first Feb-Mar record in middle Tennessee. Great Egret: 18 Apr (2) WDR (DLD), only report. Snowy Egret: 25 Apr (1) Tims Ford Res, FKC (DLD); 20 May (1) Gallatin Steam Plant, Sumner Co. (*TJW). Little Blue Heron: 31 Mar (1) Dunbar Cave State Park, MTC (AHH); 18 Apr (1 ad) Tims Ford Res, FKC (DLD). Cattle Egret: 19 Mar (1) Pulaski Pike, Maury Co. (AML); 3 May (1) Manchester, CFC (Erma L. Rogers); 9 May (1) Shelby Bottoms, DVC (*MSH). Green-backed Heron: 4 Apr (1) Cheatham WMA (AHH). No waterfowl were reported. Osprey: 11 Apr (1) So. Harpeth Rd., DVC (ATT). Bald Eagle: 4 Apr (1) WDR (DLD); 5 Apr (1) Saunders Creek, WLC (Geraldine W. Yoest). Cooper's Hawk: 21 May (1) PB (MLM). Peregrine Falcon: 19 May (2) MOP (OBL, ARL). Sora: 11 Apr ("plentiful") MOP (AML); 4 Apr (1 road kill) PB (MLM). American Coot: 6 Apr (42) RDL (MLM), high number for Radnor. Spotted Sandpiper: 18 Apr (1) RDL (MLM), ers. Least Sandpiper: 4 Apr (1) Hillsboro, CFC (DLD). Laughing Gull: 20 Apr (1) Fate Sanders, Rutherford Co. (*TJW). Caspian Tern: 26 Apr (1) Metro Center, DVC (PGL), only report. Common Tern: 10 May (5) Fate Sanders, Rutherford Co. (MLM). Forster's Tern: 18 Apr (1) WDR (DLD). Black Tern: 12 May (1) MOP (OBL).

Cuckoo-Wren: Black-billed Cuckoo: 20 Apr (1) Rivermont, MTC (AHH), ers. Barn Owl: 10 Apr (2) Tullahoma, CFC, (fide Bruce Anderson, obs by Harold & Bonnie Schmidt). Whip-poor-will: 7 Apr (1) calling, OLD (PGL). Chimney Swift: 5 Apr (3) NASH (PGL), ers. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 12 Apr (1) Maury Co. (Harold Scott), ers. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 5 May (1) Tullahoma, CFC (Lillie D. Wilard), lrs. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 15 May (1) OLD (*PGL). Eastern Wood-Pewee: 13 Apr (1) PB (MLM). Acadian Flycatcher: 30 Apr (1) RDL (MLM), ers. Willow Flycatcher: 9 May (1) MOP (AML). Least Flycatcher: 14 May (2) calling, RDL (MLM). Great Crested Flycatcher: 16 Apr (1) OLD (PGL), ers. WESTERN KINGBIRD: 1 Mar (1) Blue Buck Rd, Hickman Co. (*ARL, OBL and *Susan & Greg Weller from Idaho), first state record earlier than May. Eastern Kingbird: 16 Apr (2) Centennial Park, NASH (AHH), ers. Purple Martin: 6 Mar (1) Pulaski Pike, Maury Co. (AML), ers. Tree Swallow: 1 Mar (1) MOP (Bill Jernigan), ers. Cliff Swallow: 20 Mar (15) CCNWR (PGL) ers; 4 May (11 active nests) So. Harpeth Rd. DVC (ATT). Barn Swallow: 20 Mar (2) CCNWR (PGL), ers. Brown Creeper: 29 Apr (1) Tullahoma, CFC (Marguerite D. Hernandez), lrs. Winter Wren: 5 Apr (1 banded) COL (GRM).

Gnatcatcher-Warbler: Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 28 Mar (1) WP (PGL), ers. Swainson's Thrush: 15 Apr (1) OLD (PGL), ers. Hermit Thrush: 10 May (1) Love Circle, DVC (Jan C. Alexander), lrs. American Pipit: 25 Apr (15) Tims Ford Res., FKC (DLD). Cedar Waxwing: 25 May (5) Rivermont, MTC (AHH), lrs. Solitary Vireo: 29 Apr (1) RDL (PGL), only report. Yellow-throated Vireo: 4 Apr (1) Rivermont, MTC (AHH), ers. Warbling Vireo: 11 Apr (1) Williamson Co. (KAG, MLM), ers. Philadelphia Vireo: 25 Apr (1) Tullahoma, CFC (Ruth W. Luckado), only report. Red-eyed Vireo: 12 Apr (1) PB (MLM), ers. Blue-winged Warbler: 15 Apr (1) OLD (PGL), ers. Tennessee Warbler: 12 Apr (1) PB (MLM), ers. Orange-crowned Warbler: 22 Apr (1) OLD (PGL); 25 Apr (1) Sewanee, FKC (Harry C. Yeatman). Sightings of this species seem to be on the increase in recent years. Northern Parula: 8 Apr (1) Lewis Co. (GRM), ers; 10 Apr (1) Narrows of the Harpeth, Cheatham Co (MLM). Yellow Warbler: 9 Apr (1) PB (MLM), ers. Chestnut-sided Warbler: 12 Apr (1) PB (MLM), ers. Cape May Warbler: 25 Apr (1) Arrow Lake, Maury Co. (ARL); 29 Apr (flock) COL (GRM). Black-throated Green Warbler: 30 Mar (1) OLD (PGL), ers. Blackburnian Warbler: 13 Apr (1) COL (GRM),

ers. Yellow-throated Warbler: 7 Apr (3) RDL (MLM, PGL), ers. Prairie Warbler: 11 Apr (1) Narrows of the Harpeth, Cheatham Co (MLM), ers. Blackpoll Warbler: 18 Apr (1) RDL (MLM) ers; 23 May (1) PB (MLM), lrs; especially numerous this spring. Cerulean Warbler: 11 Apr (1) COL (GRM); 12 Apr (1) WP (PGL). American Redstart: 12 Apr (1) PB (MLM), ers. Prothonotary Warbler: 7 Apr (1) RDL (MLM), ers. Louisiana Waterthrush: 16 Mar (1) Basin Springs, Williamson Co (KAG, MLM), ers. Connecticut Warbler: 25 Apr (1) Hillsboro, CFC (Erma L. Rogers); 30 Apr (1) PB (MLM); 19 May (1) PB (MLM); 21 May (1) PB (MLM). Mourning Warbler: 2 May (1) MOP (ARL); 14 May (1) Rivermont, MTC (*AHH). Wilson's Warbler: 5 May (1) RDL (PGL), ers. Canada Warbler: 25 Apr (1) PB (MLM), ers. Yellow-breasted Chat: 16 Apr (1) PB (MLM), ers.

Tanager-Finch: Summer Tanager: 13 Apr (1) PB (MLM), ers. Scarlet Tanager: 11 Apr (1) Lewis Co (Bill Jones), ers. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 20 Apr (1) PB (MLM) ers; 21-29 Apr (10) DVC, observed at sunflower feeder, perhaps because much of maple seed crop failed due to late freeze (ATT). Blue Grosbeak: 13 Apr (1 m) Vanderbilt Campus, DVC (PGL). Indigo Bunting: 12 Apr (2) Rivermont, MTC (AHH), ers. Rufous-sided Towhee: 28 Apr (recently fledged young) DVC (ATT). Lark Sparrow: 22 May (8) McMahan, Cannon Co., (DLD), also observed last summer. Fox Sparrow: 30 Mar (1 banded) COL (GRM), lrs. Lincoln's Sparrow: 29 Apr (1) COL (GRM); 5 May (1) RDL (PGL). Swamp Sparrow: 1 May (2) Kirkwood Rd, MTC (AHH), lrs. Bobolink: 9 May (40) Capitol Hill, FKC (DLD). Northern Oriole: 6 May (pair), many observations on later dates of nest, first nest record at Radnor Lake Natural Area (*ATT, m.ob.). Purple Finch: 29 Apr (1 f) OLD (PGL), lrs. Pine Siskin: 13 Apr (1) Sherwood Dr., DVC (ATT); 28 Apr Rivermont, MTC (AHH); 31 May (1) Knob Creek Rd, Maury Co. (Nancy & Harold Scott), lrs.

Locations: CCNWR-Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge, Stewart Co.; CFC-Coffee Co.; COL-Columbia, Maury Co.; DVC-Davidson Co.; FKC-Franklin Co.; MOP-Monsanto Ponds, Maury Co.; MTC-Montgomery Co.; NASH-Nashville, Davidson Co.; OLD-Overlook Drive, Nashville, Davidson Co.; PB-Pennington Bend, Davidson Co.; RDL-Radnor Lake State Natural Area, Davidson Co.; WP-Warner Parks, Davidson Co.; WDR-Woods Reservoir, Franklin Co.; WLC-Wilson Co.;

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CUMBERLAND PLATEAU/RIDGE AND VALLEY REGION: Following a mild winter, the weather this spring was dominated by a reversal in temperatures and generally low precipitation. Unseasonable warmth in early March was countered by unseasonable coolness endured from late April through much of May. Rainfall in March and April was well below normal (1.5-2.5 inch deficient each month) throughout the region, while May varied from two inches below normal in Chattanooga to two inches above normal in Johnson City.

Several avian responses to these conditions were noted. Four species (a sandpiper, two swallows, & a warbler) arrived record early in the Johnson City area. A few other early occurrences were reported elsewhere; but a good many of the later migrants were delayed by the coolness. A cold snap in late April sent Indigo Buntings to feeders throughout the region. A cold, rainy period in early May in the northeast concentrated swifts and swallows around waterways for the suddenly

scarce supply of flying insects; most notable was a flock of 3000 Barn and 1000 Rough-winged Swallows on Clear Creek Lake in Bristol, Virginia.

Observations of nesting Osprey and Bald Eagle, plus a lingering Peregrine Falcon, near Knoxville were encouraging. Sightings of American Bittern, Upland Sandpiper, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Barn Owl were good news also for these "species of special concern". Real rarities were Glossy Ibis, Red-necked Phalarope, and Sharp-tailed Sparrow.

Loon-Ibis: Common Loon: 3 May (11) CRL (RLK), max; 26 May (1) AUS (BLC), lrs. Pied-billed Grebe: 13 May (1) KPT (TM), lrs. American White Pelican: 8 Mar (1) Blythe Ferry, Meigs Co. (Barbara Martin), flying with cranes. Double-crested Cormorant: continues to increase; representative high counts - 18 Apr (35) MAC (RJH), 6 Apr (21) KNC (ARH), 5 Apr (12) KPT (RLK); 15 May (2) AUS (BLC, GWS), lrs. American Bittern: 12 Apr (1) AUS (RLK); 29 Apr (1) UT Plant Science Farm, KNC (Holly Overton). Great Egret: 6 Apr (3) KNC (ARH); 11 Apr (2) HLC (WGH); 5 May (1) AUS (RLK); 20 May (1) BLV (BGM). Cattle Egret: 16 Apr/3 May (1/45) HLC (WGH), ers & max: 22 Apr (6) KNC (STS). Black-crowned Night-Heron: 12 Mar (1) Nolichucky Waterfowl Sanctuary, GNC (James Holt); 5 Apr (35+) KPT (RLK); 9 Apr (6) AUS (FJA). Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 30 Apr (1) AUS (RLK), surprisingly rare there; 4-21 May (5-11) BLV (BGM). GLOSSY IBIS: 23 May (2) AUS (FJA, Cathi Sullins), 4th JNC area record.

Goose-Falcon: Snow Goose: 14 Mar (1 white) Hiwassee River Area, Meigs Co. portion (RJH); 1 Apr (1 blue) Oak Ridge (Mark Reeves). Northern Pintail: 15 May (1) AUS (BLC, GWS), record late by 35 days in JNC area. Ring-necked Duck: 18 May (1) MAC (BTC), lrs. Oldsquaw: 23 Apr (1 m) TEL (STS, Patsy Shoffner), very late. Osprey: 26 Apr (nesting pair) Fort Loudoun Lake, KNC portion (Marcia Davis), apparently first nesting in KNC. Bald Eagle: pair nested at TEL, Monroe Co. portion, fledging 1 yg (fide ARH). Broad-winged Hawk: 21 Mar (1) MAC (BTC), ers. Golden Eagle: 5 Apr (2 im, with wing tags) MAC (BTC), probably from hacking program in Georgia. Merlin: 1 Mar (1) SLC (TM); 9 Apr (1) AUS (FJA). Peregrine Falcon: 1 wintered in downtown Knoxville, last seen on 20 Apr (fide J.B. Owen).

Rail-Tern: Virginia Rail: 5 Apr/16 May (2) Meadowview Marsh, KPT (RLK/TM), probably nesting. Sora: 12 Mar/24 Apr (1) CHA (WGH); 25 Apr/12 May (1) AUS (RLK/TM). Common Moorhen: 15 May (1) AUS (BLC, GWS). Greater Yellowlegs: 10 Mar (2) LST (JWN), ers. Spotted Sandpiper: 4 Jun (1) LST (BLC), lrs. Upland Sandpiper: 3-11 Apr (1-6) CHA (WGH, RJH); 21 Apr (1) UT Plant Science Farm, KNC (RDH). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 4 Jun (6) LST (BLC), lrs. White-rumped Sandpiper: 8 May (1) BLV (Kevin Calhoon, RJH, BGM). Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Mar (2) AUS (TM), ers & record early by 9 days in JNC area. Dunlin: 2-4 Jun (1) LST (BLC), late. Common Snipe: 19 May (1) BLV (David Vogt, Kevin Calhoon), lrs. RED-NECKED PHALAROPE: 21-22 May (1) LST (BLC et al.), 5th JNC area record. Bonaparte's Gull: 19 Mar (60) Watts Bar Lake, Meigs, Rhea, & Roane Cos. (Charles Nicholson), max; 9 Apr (1) LST (BLC), unusual location - farm pond far from major waterways; 3 May (1) CRL (RLK), lrs. Ring-billed Gull: 3 May (250) CRL (RLK), max. Caspian Tern: 13 Apr (5) BOL (SMS). Forster's Tern: 10 Apr-9 May (5 reports of 1-2 birds) AUS & BOL (BLC, RLK, JWB); 3 May (1) CRL (RLK).

Cuckoo-Woodpecker: Black-billed Cuckoo: 30 Apr/1 May (1) Sharp's Ridge, KNC (Bob Collier/ Mike Baltz); 2 May (1) Norris Dam, Anderson Co. (ARH et al.); 3 May (1) JNC (RLK). Barn Owl: 6 Apr (1 road kill) Telford, WGC (RLK); 9 May (2 ad, 6 yg) Albany, GNC (Richard & Willie Ruth Nevius); throughout May (1-2) BOL, at dam (SMS); plus 4 regular sites in WGC (RLK). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 8 Apr (1) MAC (WGH), ers. Red-headed Woodpecker: 23 Apr (1) TEL (STS, Patsy Shoffner); at 4 sites in WGC (RLK et al.).

Flycatcher-Vireo: Olive-sided Flycatcher: 8 May (1) JNC (JWB); 17 May (1) MAC (WGH). Horned Lark: Mar-Apr (1 singing male each) LST/Tri-cities Airport, SLC (RLK); 25 Mar (1) Albany, GNC (Richard & Willie Ruth Nevius); 3 May (singing males at 2 sites) CRL (RLK). Tree Swallow: 8 Mar (4) KPT (SMS), ers & record early by 7 days in JNC area; 2 pairs nesting at AUS (RLK). Barn Swallow: 8 Mar (1) KPT (SMS), ers & record early by 3 days in JNC area. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 18 Apr (1) HLC (Jonnie Sue Lyons). Brown Creeper: 26 Apr (1) HLC (WGH), lrs. Sedge Wren: 11 May (1) BLV (WGH). Marsh Wren: 13 May (1) Meadowview Marsh, KPT (TM). American Pipit: 26 Apr (44/50) WGC/SLC (RLK/Dick Hegler), max; 2 May (1) CHA (RJH), lrs. Yellow-throated Vireo: 8 Apr (1) MAC (WGH), ers.

Warbler-Siskin: Orange-crowned Warbler: 19-20 Apr/5 May (2/1) KNC (STS/ James Campbell). Cape May Warbler: 1-2 Apr (2 at suet feeder) KNC (Paul Pardue), very early. Black-throated Green Warbler: 30 Mar (1) KNC (STS), ers. Blackburnian Warbler: 31 May (1) MAC (WGH); 1 Jun (1) Anderson Co. (Charles Nicholson); both late. Black-and-white Warbler: 21 Mar (1) MAC (BTC), ers. Prothonotary Warbler: 16 Apr (1) AUS (RLK), ers & record early by 2 days in JNC area. Swainson's Warbler: 1 May (1) MAC (BTC). Indigo Bunting: several reports from throughout region of up to 12 at feeders during cold snap in late Apr. Dickcissel: 5 May (1) KNC (Boyd Sharp). Chipping Sparrow: present at Knoxville in moderate numbers all winter into spring (fide ARH). Grasshopper Sparrow: 11 Apr (1) BLV (BGM), ers. SHARP-TAILED SPARROW: 15 May (3) AUS (BLC, GWS), 2nd spring record in JNC area. Pine Siskin: after being virtually absent all winter, small numbers invaded the region in Mar & remained until early May (m.ob.).

Locations: AUS-Austin Springs, Washington Co.; BLV-Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co.; BOL-Boone Lake, Sullivan & Washington Cos.; CHA-Chattanooga; CRL-Cherokee Lake, Grainger Co. portion; GNC-Greene Co.; HLC-Hamilton Co.; JNC-Johnson City; KPT-Kingsport; KNC-Knox Co.; LST-Limestone,Washington Co.; MAC-Marion Co.; SLC-Sullivan Co.; TEL-Tellico Lake, Loudon & Monroe Cos.; WGC-Washington Co.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION: Overall, temperatures for the period were below normal and precipitation was about normal to slightly below normal. Precipitation was normal for March, April was dry with only 1.5 inches, and May was above normal. Snow, which was absent all winter, finally came in May! During May 6-8, Roan Mountain had about 10 inches of snow while Mount LeConte in the Smokies got about a foot. The heaviest snow fell on the North Carolina side of the mountains with Mount Pisgah getting 60 inches. Cool temperatures seemed to slow or delay a lot of the migratory activity.

Loon-Woodcock: Common Loon: 24 Mar (2) WTL (RLK); 9 May (3) WTL (JWB), lrs. Horned Grebe: 29 Mar (1) Miller Lake, Ripshin Mt., CAR (TM). Double-crested Cormorant: 25 Mar (2) WTL (TM). Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: 2 Apr (pair) SSSP (GOW), ers; nesting again at Hunter Swamp, CAR and for the second year at SSSP. Gadwall: 8 Apr (2) WTR (TM); 26 Apr (1) ERW (BLC, GWS). American Wigeon: 24 Mar (5) WTR (RLK), lrs. Canvasback: 8 Mar (1) Unicoi Co. (BLC). Ring-necked Duck: 9 Apr (9) WIL (RLK), lrs. Bufflehead: 9 May (1) WIL (JWB), lrs. Hooded Merganser: 26 Apr (1) RIP (JFA et al.), lrs. Common Merganser: 20 Mar (2) WTR (BLC). Broad-winged Hawk: 3 Apr (1) SHL (BLC), ers. Merlin: 26 Apr (1) Doe Valley, JHC (TM). Greater Yellowlegs: 9 Apr (1) WTR (RLK). Solitary Sandpiper: 14 Apr (1) Heaton Creek, RNM (RLK), ers. American Woodcock: 26 Apr (1) RIP (FJA).

Gull-Wren: Ring-billed Gull: 8 May (21) WTL (RLK), lrs. Herring Gull: 24 Mar (1) WTL (RLK), only report. Mourning Dove: 14 Apr (pair courting) RNM (RLK), 4450 ft., high elevation. Great Horned Owl: 24 Mar-9 Apr (2 yg) WIL (RLK), traditional cliff nest site. Northern Saw-whet Owl: 17 Apr (1) RNM (GOW, RLK et al.); Apr into May (1, calling) UNA (RM et al.). Alder Flycatcher: 16 May (2) RNM (TM), ers. Eastern Phoebe: 9 Apr (nest w/ 5 eggs) BUF (JWN), early. Purple Martin: 2 Mar (2) ERW (GWS), ers. Bank Swallow: 8 Apr (1) WTR (TM), early; 26 Apr (1) RIP (FJA). Cliff Swallow: 13 Apr (7) WTR (Pam Lewis), ers. Common Raven: 10 Apr (2) Doe River Gorge, CAR (RLK), possibly nesting. Red-breasted Nuthatch: small nos. at UNA and RNM (RM, RLK). House Wren: 14 Apr (1) RNM (RLK), ers.

Thrush-Siskin: Hermit Thrush: 17 Apr (7) BUF (JWN), max. Solitary Vireo: 21 Mar (1) BUF (JWN), ers. Northern Parula: 29 Mar (2) RIP (TM), record early by 9 days. Prothonotary Warbler: 18 Apr (4) SSSP (TM); 26 Apr (1) Doe Valley, JHC (TM). Worm-eating Warbler: 8 Apr (1) BUF (TM), ers. Swainson's Warbler: 14 Apr (1) RIP (RLK), record early by 3 days. Louisiana Waterthrush: 27 Mar (1) BUF (JWN), ers. Fox Sparrow: 17 Mar (4) UNA (RM), lrs. Swamp Sparrow: 10 May (2) Elizabethton, CAR (JWB), lrs. Purple Finch: thru mid-Mar (1-2) SHL (RPL). Pine Siskin: thru EOP on RNM and UNA; from Mar thru first week of May (small flocks at low elev).

Locations: BUF-Buffalo Mountain, Washington Co.; CAR-Carter Co.; ERW-Erwin, Unicoi Co.; JHC-Johnson Co.; RIP-Ripshin Lake, Carter Co.; RNM-Roan Mountain, Carter Co.; SHL-South Holston Lake, Sullivan Co.; SSSP-Sycamore Shoals State Park, Carter Co.; WIL-Wilbur Lake, Carter Co.; WTL-Watauga Lake, Carter Co.; WTR-Watauga River, Carter Co.; UNA-Unaka Mountain, Unicoi Co.

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The Migrant, 63 (3): 80, 1992.

MISSISSIPPI KITES: THE KANSAS/TENNESSEE CONNECTION

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Since 1980 a program has been in effect at the Memphis Zoo & Aquarium involving the release of Mississippi Kites *(Ictinia mississippiensis)* captured in Kansas and flown to Memphis, Tennessee. While these graceful, crow-sized raptors are still common in the western portion of their range, they are considered rare in West Tennessee. As a result, they were among the first birds placed on the state endangered species list in 1974. Records going back some 70 years show very limited sightings, and as late as 1974 only one kite was reported seen in Shelby County.

With these low numbers in mind, it was decided to reintroduce the kite to West Tennessee in numbers large enough to establish a viable breeding population. With the help of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and the Kansas Game & Fish Commission, a plan was devised that would involve taking chicks from "problem" nests in Kansas and sending them to Memphis for release. As late as the 1960's, these problem nests were torn down and the chicks (as well as the parents) killed. Now the birds are saved. Since 1980 a total of 181 birds have been sent to Memphis for release.

The yearly totals are as follows:

1980 — 3	1984 — 13	1988 — 17	1992 — 21
1981 — 0	1985 — 21	1989 — 4	
1982 — 2	1986 — 22	1990 — 27	
1983 — 8	1987 — 3	1991 — 40	

For the first few years all birds were released on the grounds of the Memphis Zoo & Aquarium. After 1985, however, new release sites were used at Meeman-Shelby State Park, T.O. Fuller State Park and Lichterman Nature Center, all in Shelby County. After 1988 the Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge in Haywood County and Paris Landing State Park in Henry County were added. Cyprus Grove Nature Center in Jackson or Big Hill Pond in McNairy County, as well as Reelfoot Lake State Park, are candidates for future release sites.

Since 1980 the number of kite sightings has grown each year. Active nests were first seen in 1987, and since then active nests have been found each year. For that reason no birds have been released within the city in several years. If the number of birds continues to rise, it may be possible to phase out the program and consider it a success. Only time will tell.

Accepted 11 September 1982.

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

The Migrant records observations and studies of birds in Tennessee and adjacent areas. Most articles are written by members of the Tennessee Ornithological Society.

SUBMISSIONS: The original and, if feasible, two copies of the manuscript should be sent to the Editor: J. Wallace Coffey, 100 Bellebrook Dr., Bristol, TN 37620. Manuscripts that have been published in other journals should not be submitted.

MATERIAL: The subject matter should relate to some phase of Tennessee ornithology. It should be original, factual, concise, and scientifically accurate.

STYLE: Both articles and short notes are solicited; recent issues of *The Migrant* should be used as a guide in the preparation of manuscripts. Where more detail is needed, reference should be made to the *CBE Style Manual*; this book is available at many public libraries and from the Council of Biology Editors, Inc., 111 East Wacker Drive, Suite 3200, Chicago, IL 60601-4298.

COPY: Manuscripts should be typed *double spaced* on 8.5 x 11" paper with adequate margins for editorial notations. Tables should be prepared on separate sheets with appropriate title and column headings. Photographs intended for reproduction should be sharp with good contrast on glossy white paper; black and white photographs will usually reproduce better than color photographs. Weights, measurements, and distances should be in metric units. Dates should be in "continental" form (e.g., 16 March 1992). Use the 24-hour clock (e.g., 0500 or 1900).

NOMENCLATURE: The scientific name of a species should be given after the first use of the full common name in the text. The scientific name should be underlined and in parentheses. Names should follow the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds (sixth edition, 1983, or supplements).

TITLE: The title should be concise, specific, and descriptive.

ABSTRACT: Manuscripts of five or more typed pages should include an abstract. The abstract should be less than 5% of the length of the manuscript. It should include a brief explanation of why the research was done, the major results, and why the results are important.

LITERATURE CITED: List all literature citations in a Literature Cited section at the end of the text. Text citations should include the author and year.

IDENTIFICATION: Manuscripts including reports of rare or unusual species or of species at atypical times should be submitted to the TOS Bird Records Committee. Verifying evidence should include: date, time, light and weather conditions, exact location, habitat, optical equipment, distance, behavior of bird, comparison with other similar species, characteristic markings, experience of observer, other observers verifying the identification, and reference works consulted.

REPRINTS: Reprints are available to authors on request. Billing to authors will be through the TOS Treasurer.

SEASON REPORTS: Observations that are to be considered for publication in The Season section should be mailed to the appropriate Regional Compiler. Consult a recent issue of *The Migrant* for the name and address of the compilers.

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NOTICE TO RESEARCHERS

Several references in this issue include dates later than the cover date of September 1992. The journal is behind schedule and it has been necessary to use material which, in some cases, was submitted and accepted later in the year.

(Vol. 63, 1992) [ACTUAL PRINTING DATE: 4 May 1994]

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THE MIGRANT

PUBLISHED BY THE
TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
(ISSN 0026-3575)
P.O. Box 171381
Memphis, TN 38187-1381

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